

MCRRC 2022 PREA Annual Report

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) of 2003 is a federal law established to support the elimination and prevention of sexual assault and sexual misconduct in correctional systems. PREA addresses both inmate-to-inmate sexual assault and staff-to-inmate sexual assault. The Maine Coastal Regional Reentry Center (MCRRC) fully supports the guidelines set forth in this law and has ZERO-TOLERANCE for any and all incidents of sexual assault and sexual misconduct in accordance with the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003.

The Maine Coastal Regional Reentry Center implements its “Zero-Tolerance” policies through a facility-wide systematic process that begins when residents are initially admitted into the facility. When residents enter MCRRC they are met with a comprehensive educational process where their rights to be free from sexual abuse and harassment is explained in detail to them. From there, an assessment is conducted on every resident to determine their individual risk of victimization or predation using an objective measurement tool based on specific risk factors. This tool is utilized to make an individualized determination of housing and program assignments for each resident. Throughout the facility, residents are exposed to education concerning reporting options through the use of the resident handbook and in every resident living area. In addition to this there are posters and educational prompts in a variety of languages and formats located on the PREA education board. These provide information in regards to sexual abuse prevention and information concerning victim advocacy.

Residents at the facility are housed in living units called day-rooms with double occupancy dorm style rooms. Video monitoring and recording is utilized throughout the facility to enhance security and surveillance. The number and location of video cameras is reviewed no less frequently than every year by the PREA Coordinator and the Compliance Manager to assess if the level of monitoring is adequate to protect the inmate population from sexual abuse and to ensure the safety of all staff and inmates.

MCRRC enhanced its video monitoring capabilities in the 2021 calendar year. 16 digital/IP cameras were installed in new locations. 8 Cameras were updated with IP models as well as 3 new DVR's, 4 computers for optimization and duplicate monitoring consisting of 4 LCD monitors. This brings the total camera count to 64 cameras (17 with audio) with 24 hour recording. Video recordings are retained by the DVR's for over 60 days. In 2022 we continued to upgrade cameras from analog to IP, this enhances our ability to capture video for longer lengths of time.

MCRRC began its second PREA Audit at the beginning of 2022. We achieved full compliance on May 22nd of 2022.

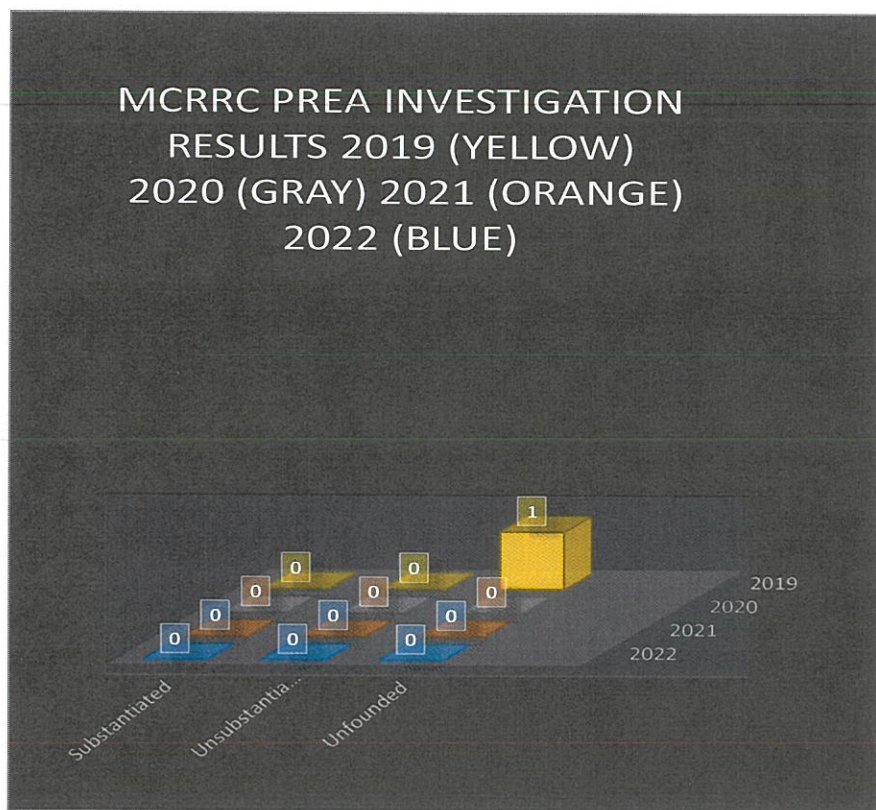
When it comes to sexual activity within the facility, MCRRC's policies and procedures are clear; ALL SEXUAL ACTIVITY IS PROHIBITED. Beyond those rules, forced or coerced sexual behavior is a criminal act that merits criminal prosecution. All verified incidents are reported to the Waldo County Sheriffs Office's Detective Division, and an investigation is conducted to ensure the perpetrator faces the full consequences of the law.

In accordance with PREA, all investigations are assigned one of three possible determinations:
Substantiated– an allegation which was investigated and determined to have occurred
Unsubstantiated– an allegation which produced insufficient evidence to make a final determination of a substantiated or unfounded claim
Unfounded– an allegation which was investigated and determined not to have occurred

In the calendar year beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022, there were NO reported PREA incidents.

If you feel that your family member or friend has been the victim of sexual abuse at the hands of another inmate or if you have information concerning suspected incidents of employee sexual misconduct involving MCRRC personnel, please utilize the reporting information located on the Waldo County website.

<http://www.waldocountyme.gov/corr/indexprea.html>



Major Raymond Porter

Sheriff Jason Trundy